(b) The Central Issue Prices (CIPs) of wheat and rice for Public Distribution System for Above Poverty Line (APL) families have already been lowered by Rs. 100 per quintal, both for wheat and rice, with effect from 1-4-2002 to increase the offtake of foodgrains. The revised CIPs for wheat and rice for APL families are Rs. 510 per quintal and Rs. 730 per quintal respectively.

Increase in Offtake of Foodgrains

5304. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central foodgrains stocks are far in excess of the minimum buffer stock norms creating problem of abundance;

(b) if so, the details thereof with State/Circle-wise breakup of the food stocks;

(c) whether it is a fact that there has been poor offtake of foodgrains under PDS and TPDS;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what are the measures taken to increase the offtake of foodgrains by the States as also the steps taken/proposed to be taken to reduce the food stocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The stock position of rice and wheat held in Central Pool as on 1-4-2002 as compared to buffer stocking norms of foodgrains of the corresponding period was as under:

(Figures in lakh tonnes)*

Commodity	Stocks	Buffer Norms	Surplus stocks
Rice	249.12	118.00	131.12
Wheat	260.39	40.00	220.39
TOTAL	509.51	158.00	351.51

*(Provisional)

(b) Stock position of rice and wheat held by FCI and State agencies, State-wise, as on 1-4-2002 is at statement-I (*See* below).

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There has been significant improvement in the foodgrains offtake of rice and wheat under Public Distribution System in 2001-2002 as compared to 2000-01 as given below:

(Figures in lakh tonnes)*

Year	Rice	Wheat	Total
2001-02	80.34	54.97	135.31
2000-01	76.34	38.44	114.78

*(Provisional)

(e) The Government have taken a number of measures to increase the foodgrains offtake which are at Statement-II.

Statement-I

Total Stock of Foodgrains in Central Pool as on 1.4.2000 (P)—held by FCI and State agencies.

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Rice($)	Wheat	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19.96	3.45	23.41
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.04	0.00	0.04
3.	Assam	0.51	0.16	0.67
4.	Bihar	1.82	1.23	3.05
5.	Chhattisgarh	7.40	0.24	7.64
6.	Delhi	0.52	2.74	3.26
7.	Goa	0.07	0.06	0.13
8.	Gujarat	1.19	6.49	7.68
9.	Haryana	20.62	57.26	77.88
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.07	0.03	0.10
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.44	0.27	0.71
12.	Jharkhand	0.34	0.34	0.68
13.	Karnataka	5.04	2.21	7.25
14.	Kerala	5.85	0.29	6.14
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4.22	3.38	7.60
16.	Maharashtra	6.02	10.45	16.47

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Manipur	0.06	0.01	0.07
18.	Meghalaya	0.04	0.00	0.04
19.	Mizoram	0.07	0.01	0.08
20.	Nagaland	0.15	0.00	0.15
21.	Orissa	5.10	0.26	5.36
22.	Punjab	122.96	129.23	252.19
23.	Rajasthan	1.04	14.19	15.23
24.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	9.93	2.05	11.98
26.	Tripura	0.12	0.04	0.16
27.	Uttar Pradesh	28.32	20.17	48.49
28.	Uttaranchal	1.89	0.12	2.01
29.	West Bengal	2.84	2.71	5.55
30.	A & N Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	D & N Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
Stock in Transit		2.50	3.00	5.50
GRAND TOTAL (All India)		249.12	260.39	509.51

Statement-II

Measures taken by the Government of India to increase offtake of foodgrains to liquidate the excess stocks

1.4.2000

(i) The entitlement for BPL families was raised from 10 kg. per family per month to 20 kg. per family per month from April 2000.

2.11.2000

(ii) It was decided to make foodgrains available at CIPs for BPL families for all welfare schemes, including SC/ST/OBC hostels scheme, implemented by various Ministries of the Government of India.

(iii) It was decided to make foodgrains available at BPL rates for allotment to State Goverments @ 5 Kg. per head per month for covering categories of indigent people living in welfare institutions, such as Beggar Homes, Orphanages/Nari Niketans, etc. sponsored by the State Governments and the concerned administrative Ministries of the Government of India.

(iv) A decision was taken to make foodgrains available at BPL rates for development schemes (where the beneficiaries belong to the BPL category) implemented by Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), sponsored by the State Governments and endorsed by the Administrative Ministry in the Government of India, as also by international organizations like the World Food Programme.

(v) FCI was permitted to make wheat available from the Central Pool for the purpose of export. A quantity of 42.96 lakh tonnes of wheat has been exported so far.

1.12.2000

(vi) The allocation of foodgrains for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families was revised w.e.f. 1.12.2000 on the basis of population projections of the Registrar General as on 1.3.2000. As a result, the number of BPL families eligible for subsidized foodgrains has increased from 5.96 crores families to 6.52 crore families.

25.12.2000

(vii) The Antyodaya Anna Yojana was announced for the one crore poorest of poor BPL families. The scheme is now under implementation in all States/UTs. Each of the Antyodaya families is given 25 kg. of foodgrains @ Rs. 2 per kg. for wheat and Rs. 3 per kg. for rice.

1.1.2001

(viii) The Food for Work Programme was introduced in eight drought affected States in January, 2001 by the Ministry of Rural Development. Under FFW the foodgrains are allocated to State Governments free of cost. The programme have been susequently extended to cover floods and other natural calamities. From January, 2001 till 7.3.2002 39.33 lakh tonnes of foodgrains under FFW have been allotted to 11 States.

29.1.2001

(ix) The Government of India allocated one lakh tonnes of foodgrains for distribution in the earthquake-affected areas of Gujarat on 29 January, 2001.

1.5.2001

(x) It was decided to make additional allocation of foodgrains at BPL rates to drought affected States for distribution to all the drought-affected families (BPL & APL) @ 20 kg. per family per month for a period of three months in the current financial year. The Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan have already been allocated additional foodgrains aggregating 19.53 lakh tonnes. The Government of Bihar has been given additional allocation of 1.80 lakh MTs of wheat at BPL rate for flood relief.

2.5.2001

(xi) It was decided to permit FCI to offer rice from the Central Pool for the purpose of export. The quantity of rice lifted for export upto 25.2.2002 during the current financial year is 16.46 lakh tonnes.

10.7.2001

(xii) It was decided to make available 20 lakh tonnes of wheat from the Central Pool for the purpose of export of wheat products.

12.7.2001

(xiii) The entitlement of BPL families was raised from 20 kg. per family per month to 25 kg. per family per month.

(xiv) The Central Issue Price (CIP) of wheat and rice was retained for BPL and reduced for the APL category as under, which will be valid till 31.3.2002:

(Rs. per quintal)

	BPL	APL
Wheat	415	610
Rice	565	830

15.8.2001

(xv) The Prime Minister announced the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) on 15th August 2001. The Scheme was launched by the Minister of Rural Development on 25.9.2001. Under the programme, it is envisaged to utilize 50 lakh MTs of foodgrains every year.

23.3.2002

With a view to further liquidate the stocks of foodgrains, the Government has approved the following proposals:

(i) To reduce the APL CIPs by Rs. 100 per quintal in respect of rice and wheat for a period of three proposals:

(ii) To fix the scale of issue for APL, BPL and Antyodaya households @ 35 kg. per household per month and increase allocations to States/UTs accordingly.

(iii) To fix the scale of issue for all welfare institutions and hostels uniformly @ 15 kg. per head per month and make an additional allocation equal to 5% of the BPL allocation of States/UTs at BPL CIPs on this account.

(iv) To make open market sales of 50 lakh MTs of wheat and 10 lakh MTs of rice at prices to be determined by the existing High level Committee of the FCI. FCI may be authorized to sell the stocks in the open market either through auction in prefixed lots or by fixation of sale prices keeping in view the prevailing market conditions.

(v) To increase export of wheat and rice, including lustre lost wheat, and provide WTO compatible subsidies for exports of wheat, wheat products and rice in accordance with the decision taken on 5th February, 2002.

(vi) To fix no quantitative restrictions on the exports of rice, wheat and wheat products, subject to the condition that the stocks in the Central Pool will not be lower than the buffer stock of 243 MTs (100 lakh MTs of rice and 143 lakh MTs of wheat) at any point of time.

(vii) To enter into counter and/or extend commodity assistance in the form of foodgrains to other countries on terms to be decided on a case-to-case basis. The decisions at S. No. (ii) to (vii) above will be valid upto 31.3.2003

Declining trend in consumption and expenditure on food

5305. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) where it is a fact that 55th Round (1999-2000) of National Sample Survey (NSS) on house-hold consumption confirmed declining trend in consumption, expenditure on food;

(b) if so, the details of the findings of the survey;

(c) whether it is also a fact consumption of other non-cereal food like fruits\vegetables, milk, eggs have gone up; and

(d) if so, what measures Government propose to take to reorient agriculture policies like cropping pattern, food precurement in view of the above findings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFARIS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the 55th round of the National Sample Survey, the percentage of monthly per capita Consumer expenditure (MPCE) on Food including cereals has gone down as compared to the 50th round both in rural and urban areas as shown in Statement I and II (*see* below). The percentage monthly per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) on non-cereals food like fruits, vegetables, milk and eggs has gone up as comprared to cereals as per the 55th round of the National Sample Survey.

(d) during the last two years, relatively higher MSPs have been given for coarse cereals, oilseeds and pulses in order to encourage farmers to diversify from normal rice-wheat cropping system.